

20: May - April 13, 1969 A.M.  
 Boston Lumber Co. Employees April 14, 1969 8 A.M.  
 So. N. July 7, 74 P.M. - WNRJ  
 Brutley May 9, 1982 11 A.M.  
 Krome Park March 4, 90 P.M.  
 Luke 5:36 - 39  
 L.A. Drummond June 12, 94  
 KEEPING YOUR RELIGION UP-TO-DATE  
 March 29, 1987, 7:58 P.M.

INTRODUCTION:

- Desire to be up to date.
- Fashions in dress - latest style hair-do.
- Home - latest gadgets - conveniences.
- Social - Read books of month - Kiplinger letter.
- Late news on T. V.

*French man wanted a "Halo" Room - architect*  
*oil - No Room with Halo*  
*Room with Halo*  
*architect - Halo Room*  
*no Halo Room*  
*The Room where you pick up*  
*The instrument of say Halo*

What about your religion?

- The older it is the better it is.
- Modernistic - air conditioned church building.

Observe 2 Things

1. Old time religion is (not selling too well) on today's market.  
 Many say - "Its not good enough for me!"

(Life Magazine) - surveyed college campuses, that produced 85% of political and business leadership.  
Startling Report: Philosophy of (Negativism) has captured present student generation.  
 They are (rebellling) against every traditional concept of morality, the existence of God, and reverence for Christian Faith.

(Saturday Evening Post) - Featured story some months ago. Ayn Rand - a militant atheist - author, philosopher, lecturer. Written 5 books, one selling over 2 1/2 million copies. She wears a solid gold dollar sign on the lapel of her suit and says "that money is the root of all good. The Sermon on the Mount is an absurdity, and Jesus Christ was a fraud".

Who would listen to such a crackpot?

✓ Rand clubs on college campuses all over the country to promote young agnostics in the name of "Objectivism".

Some years back Post Office Department proposed a special Christmas Stamp. Joseph Lewis a free thinker protested - no proof Jesus Christ ever lived. Pressure on the Department finally produced Christmas Stamp with a wreath of holly without any religious symbol! Face it - scientific, space age generation has little reverence for religious tradition or old time religion.

✓ 2. Jesus Christ did not approve of a handed down religion. Generation to generation. I was born a Baptist - if my father been a Moslem, or Catholic, I would now be what they were. By family and by birth. *Felt presence of Christ will create a burning sense of spiritual need - etc -*

✓ Scripture

V. 133

Disciples disturbed - The Disciples of John fast every week. Pharisees twice a week. Very religious - go with unwashed faces - pious countenances - bare feet. Ashes on their heads. How can we call men to a good life who disregard these observances.

X Jack Wilder - Brothers going to help a little bull dog look like what he was. Clipped his ears with scissors. Not complain much. Surgery on his long tail. George held the dog. Fred held his tail on the block. Clyde held the knife in place on his tail said hurry up. Jack held the hammer and he missed the knife and hit the tail - the dog let out a yell. But George held the dog - Fred held the tail and Clyde held the knife. Clyde said hurry up Jack - cut the hurt end off. He did. Years later Jack as a Pastor - many times he wished he could cut the hurt off among offended church members. People get a grudge and hold it - bring religion up to date.

✓ New Two Parables:

V. 136

*Futile*

No man puts a new patch on an old coat. Not take patch from new coat put on old coat. Old coat is washed, new patch shrinks, tear the worn out cloth. Jesus - I did not come to patch up Judiasm. Human nature - or reform or restore something worn out.

I come with a new coat - new way - all things are new.

Christian Life not a "hand-me-down" coat of doctrine, or tradition to be delivered to us from the past with a few new patches to bring it up to date.

Faith cannot be inherited. Saving faith does not come through rituals, candles, or religious activities - it must be a new coat.

Some new to each person - experienced individually as though no one else in all the world had ever experienced it!

System - outward works - fasting - compulsory external service to God.

Incompatibility with Jesus way.

Wineskins - wine was not kept in bottles but in skins. Skin of goat or sheep - scraped off. Feet and neck tied made unto vessel.

Near East - use to carry water.

Not put new - in old skin - dry and brittle - ferment - break and the new wine lost.

Jesus - message new way of life - could not put the new way into old wine skin of Judaism - truth dynamic - alive.

Not saying there is some truth and excellence in the old piety. *New Wine in Old Skins Means X Followers were going to Need Elbow Room - Freedom - Getting our religion up to date.*

Can we apply these parables to our religious life?

*Words Vital in Keeping Rel. up To Date*

I. What is the Bible? *Worship, Church, Salvation.*

You - not someone else - a major issue.

✓ Some: Books religious tradition.

Sacred writing - as Hinduism.

✓ Ethical standards.

✓ History of Jews.

✓ Old coat - 2000 years old - what of 1969.

We believe the Bible is more than this.

self-revelation.

Not a dead word of a dead yesterday. Living vital revelation.

God speaks through it.

How and to whom God speaks through the living word. Not just through priest who read - or those enforce creeds.

More than 20 million children in the United States do not attend Sunday school or receive religious instruction of any kind, according to the best available estimates.

A young man of college age walked into the office of the American Bible Society in New York City one day. One of the clerks greeted him and asked, "May I help you?"

"Well, I don't know" was the young man's uncertain reply. "I saw your sign out in front and came in to see what a Bible is. A man on the bus told me I should read it."

The clerk was dumfounded. Wondering if the young man was joking or in earnest, she asked, "Didn't you really ever see a Bible?"

"Well," he replied, somewhat taken back, "I have heard of it, but that is all." He seemed very much in earnest. He told the clerk he had lived all his life in New York. "On the bus," he continued, "I talked with a man who explained some of the things he said were in the Bible, but I couldn't believe it. He told me to read it for myself. So here I am."

The young man was presented with a copy of the New Testament and told to go to church, where he would hear more about the Bible.

record of God's

To Priesthood of all believers. Every believer must find God's truth for himself in this word!

Bible is meaning to the individual only as it speaks in personal revelation to the individual.

What the Bible says to other is not adequate. Question is, what does the Bible say to you?

✓ Today - we period of Heresy hunting. Some are clamoring for a creed. Some search for orthodoxy to measure others by.

Be careful not put personal soul belief into old wine skins of creeds and dogma.

Bible is living, vital, God's word speaks today to every believer.

Julius Hickerson - Miss - death 1950 - plane he was piloting to Venezuela exploded over Colombia.

2 years after his death, there came to our Baptist Mission in Barranquilla, Columbia, a delegation of natives from the interior, 500 miles up the river. The mission was surprised to discover they were Christians and no mission work had ever been done in that dangerous bandit-ridden section of Colombia.

When asked where they had learned of Christ - natives produced a leatherbound Bible translated in Spanish. (Fly leaf - name Julius Hickerson.)

They found the Bible in an open area several miles from where the plane had crashed. Did not associate the Bible with the plane crash. When plane exploded the Bible was thrown from the cockpit and the plane glided forward, crashed and burned.

Upon reading this Bible, ("The book from Heaven") - as they called it - the whole village had been converted. Organized a church and practiced Christian faith following the patterns of Baptist democracy.

God had spoken to them through His Living Word - His book from Heaven.

Just as He will speak to each of us this day through this book.

Bring your religion up to date.

What have you been told about the Bible, what do others believe? But what does the Bible say to you.

II. What is worship.

We stand - we sing - pray - take an offering, doxology - what are we doing.  
Religious ritual - a form our Fathers practiced in this building years ago.

Is all this an old coat - threadbare relic of yesterday.

Or is the atmosphere stuffy, sermon dull, music poor, pew hard, people gathered uninteresting.

Shall we sew on a new patch - a new gimmick - a spectacular sermon theme - a special program to draw the crowd?

Man wrote Ann Landers - my girl says she has given me up for Lent.

I want to know is she a good Catholic or has she just given me the run-around?

Is all this morning worship hour just Baptist adaptation.

Is this a time and place where we come to open our hearts to the Living God - prayer - music - preaching we find God's living presence here.

Did we come determined to bring our religion up to date by seeking a new experience with the Lord.

Every time we meet the human elements of the service should fade into the background as we find God "face to face" and feel his presence in our lives.

Worship - receive vision of God - find purpose for our lives.

Young man - house Lord caught vision (Isaiah) - "I saw God high and lifted up!"

And I saw myself - sins.

I said Lord use me.

In the Lord's house - found the will of God for his life.

Bring your religion up to date - don't live by Old Threadbare Patterns of yesterday - this is a glorious hour and God will make known his will in your heart - seek and ye shall find.

III. What is the Church?

Later I will give an invitation for you to come forward - inviting Christians

and join with this church. If you come would you be joining an institution that bids for your membership? An institution with <sup>150</sup> 75 years of history?

Tradition - prestige - a benevolent organization to fed the poor - minister to the sick - just another worthy community organization?

Just an organization to bid for your time and serve little children?

If so - I doubt you would be happy with it.

It is full of human failure - your interest will not last long, nor your loyalty.

You will tire of this old coat even though it is patched up with new schemes, new programs to make it appear modern and attractive.

Note the church is the living body of Christ in the world. It is a redeeming fellowship made up of redeemed people vitally bound together under the lordship of Jesus Christ to redeem the world.

Do you consider to be a part of this body?

A finger - thumb - hand - arm - functioning with the rest of the body - obeying Jesus.

Nothing could be more vital in 1969 space age than for the living body of Christ to be turned loose in this world of hate and greed.

"Glorious opportunity is yours.

Dr. Albert Einstein saw use of Nazism in Germany - "I saw Hitler raise his fist and strike the schools and break them strike the empires of business, and shatter them". Strike newspaper and destroy truth. Then I saw him raise his fist to strike the church and he broke his fist against the church. It did not fall."

The living witness of God, alone, was able to withstand the evil one.

This is the body of Christ in the world today. This body lays claim to your time, service, and talents in a way nothing else can.

IV. What is salvation?

How are we saved?

*Remember The Ten (John Wesley) Quarter 1919*

Imagine John Wesley shoes - Been a Priest - Pastor - Missionary  
Worked hard to save himself - May 23, 1738 spent Day Weeping  
in his room begging a holy God for the Answer.

opened the Bible Psa 130 - Felt a Failure

Got out of the depths (written by Hezekiah on Death Bed pleading  
with God for life - Jf V. 7 -

Next Day May 24, 1738 Made his way Aldersgate  
Christian meeting.

Remember he had been with General Oglethorpe  
the islands off the coast of Georgia. As he sailed,  
he wrote in his diary "al'm going to Georgia to  
save the heathens, but God God, who will save me?"  
He fled the islands in the middle of the Night, to Savannah  
climbed on a ship & made it back to England - a Failure

May 23, 1738 He asked God for any kind  
of message. In the candlelight, his Bible opened  
to Psa 130

May 24, 1738 at Aldersgate - He heard a  
layman reading Martin Luther's "Preface to The Book  
of Romans."

For the first time His mind & heart came  
alive with the Truth of the Gospel, Salvation was not  
what he did, but all with the blood of Christ, and  
in Faith in Him Alone.

Wesley wrote in his Diary that Night "my  
heart was strangely warmed."

and planted a red coal in his heart, and  
The Flame became a Fire. He was asked why do  
People come to hear you preach? "I set my self on fire"

ends the come to ~~see~~ me burn!

(8)

Brought his Religion up to Date

1/ 130:2 The Picture of a Compassionate God  
"let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications,  
Tev-ye, in Fiddlers on the roof? said he had see things  
that would make a rabbi's eyes cross.

Things in the world I don't understand but you know  
God is compassionate.

2. God is a forgiving God

v.3 Wesley said "if there should Mark inequities 2-  
v.4

3. God is an Ever-present God

v.5 My Soul Waits for the Lord. --- I do hope.

Ron Dunn - "say Jesus is all I need" - you'll never  
know Jesus is all I need, until Jesus is all you've  
got, and when Jesus is <sup>all</sup> you've got, you'll know  
that Jesus is all you need!"

I've been there - you've been there - lonely  
misunderstood - deserted.

There is a strange warming in Wesley's heart,  
Aldersgate - God is real - his heart is transformed -

New comfort comes

4. God is a merciful God

v.7 "Oh blessed hope in the Lord - with the  
Lord there is mercy - abundant redemption -

5 - v.8 God is a controller God.  
ordain all inequities!

At Aldersgate - true grace - cast himself on Lord -

Marvellously Brought his Religion up to Date!!



Link 13:20-21 Hobbit Yeast - Large Attract People ch. 13. Think it's the same Net Heaven

Bible is lesson - Example 1st Roman Empire vs Birth Baby in Bethlehem / Empire gone! lesson cont-  
Picture of Gospel in A Life, it works until whole life - is transformed

Did Jesus patch up our lives by applying the Golden Rule here and the Sermon on the Mount there.

Close of World War II (Dr. Fuller) Seminary President - invited to preach sermon Columbia Church of the air.

Required send manuscript to CBS - Clearance.

Saturday - Before official ask delete one word - "I hope every person who sits around the peace table will be a Christian".

Please take out the word a and say "I hope every person who sits around the peace table will be Christian".

He talked for 30 minutes telling to drop one little word would change the whole meaning of the statement.

Being Christian is not the same as being a Christian.

You may be Christian a long time before you ever become a Christian.

Put patches of Christianity - act like a Christian - look - live by Golden rule or ideals.

Jesus brings a new ethic.

Nicodemus - Ye must be born again.

Something must happen that changes you. A vital be a Christian before you can truly be Christian.

We become a Christian through repentance and life surrender to Jesus.

Transforming power - new creation.

May be Christian in conduct - heritage nurture wineskin and old coat.

Jesus calls you to bring religion up to date!

if one is to get serious about God, He must first be serious about the man (aside the Moshe) - you must expect a change, be renewed - ch

Rededication: O.T. 1- God called into covenant, 2. Covenant #1. Repent & Rededicate to God's covenant!

N.T. - 1. Renew commitment to Christ - "Take up their cross" 2. Make Jesus Christ Lord - whole being

### Revival Results 1974 Include Return of Property

A housewife in Dayton, Ohio, believes in revival now that she has her lawn furniture back.

About halfway through a citywide crusade, conducted by Texas evangelist James Robison at the University of Dayton arena, a man came to the house of a north Dayton housewife and said, "Lady, you don't know me, but last summer, I stole your lawn furniture. I was saved the other night at the Robison crusade and I have brought back your furniture. I want you to know I'm sorry for what I did."

"I believe in revivals that do things to people like that," the housewife told L. H. Moore, editor of the Ohio Baptist Messenger. (BP)

el Believe in Rev. That will  
100 That -